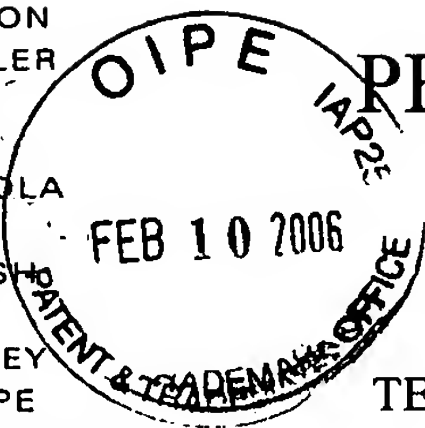


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February 8, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Certificate**  
**FEB 14 2006**  
**of Correction**

Re: U.S. Patent Application for  
"IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS"  
Serial No.: 10/618,031  
Filed: July 11, 2003  
Patent No.: 6,973,276  
Issue Date: December 6, 2005  
Our Docket: 35879

Sir:

In proofreading the above-referenced patent, typographical errors were noted. It is not believed that these errors require a Certificate of Correction. However, it is respectfully requested that this letter be placed in the file for this case.

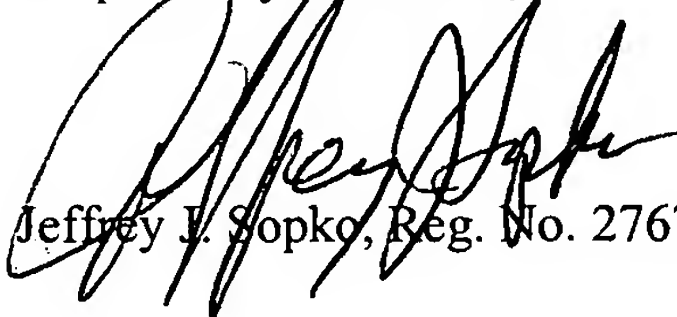
The following errors were noted:

Cover Page, Item (57), Abstract, line 16, please delete "width wise" and insert therefor  
-- widthwise --.

Column 9, line 9, please delete "a" and insert therefor -- as --.

Column 10, claim 1, line 51, please delete the first occurrence of "is".

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey J. Sopko, Reg. No. 27676

JJS:vlh  
Enclosure

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey J. Sopko  
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

February 8, 2006  
Date

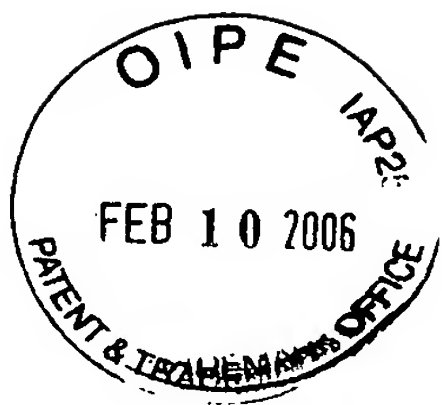
  
Signature of Attorney



## ABSTRACT

An image forming apparatus includes: image forming units provided detachably and each having a developing roller for supplying a toner to an electrostatic latent image formed on a charged photoconductor drum to form the electrostatic latent image into a visible image; an endless intermediate transfer belt which is provided in such a manner as to be capable of abutting against the photoconductor drum and is adapted to rotate in loop form by being supported in a tension-adjusted state by a plurality of rollers, and onto which a toner image developed on the photoconductor drum is transferred; and a high-voltage unit which is electrically and mechanically connected to the image forming units through terminals to supply predetermined electric power to the photoconductor drums, chargers, and the developing rollers of the image forming units. The image forming units are arranged to be moved in a widthwise direction of the intermediate transfer belt so as to be connected to the high-voltage unit.

[Selected Drawing] Fig. 3



spring 123 is brought into contact with the developing-roller biasing metal sheet 105 to supply electric power to the developing roller 5b, and a coil spring 125 is inserted in a boss provided at an end portion of the charging roller 15 to supply electric power to the charging roller 15. The coil springs 121, 123, and 125 correspond to the terminals 21 of the first embodiment. By virtue of the above-described construction, in the state in which the image forming unit 5 is inserted in parallel to the intermediate transfer belt 7 and is installed in the main body 1 of the color image forming apparatus, electric power is supplied from the power source of the main body 1 of the color image forming apparatus to the image forming unit 5.

The coil spring 121 is formed of stainless steel (SUS 304), and a bent portion 122 for fixing is formed at one end thereof. The other coil springs 123 and 125 are also constructed in a similar manner.

Each of the coil springs 121, 123, and 125 is inserted in each of coil-spring supporting bosses 131, 133, and 135. In a state in which each of the coil springs 121, 123, and 125 is positioned after riding over a boss 400 on the rear side of the high-voltage unit, as shown in Fig. 14, each of the coil springs 121, 123, and 125 is fixed by a presser plate 500 and a screw 600. A hole 510 formed in the presser plate 500 is for positioning the boss 400 therein. A hole 520 formed in the presser plate



**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1           **Claim 1 (currently amended):**     An image forming  
2     apparatus comprising:  
3           an image forming unit provided detachably and  
4     including a photoconductor provided rotatably, ~~charging~~  
5     ~~means~~a charger for charging the photoconductor to a uniform  
6     potential; and a developing ~~means~~roller for supplying a  
7     toner to an electrostatic latent image formed on the  
8     charged photoconductor to form the electrostatic latent  
9     image into a visible image;  
10          an endless intermediate transfer member which is  
11     provided in such a manner as to be capable of abutting  
12     against the photoconductor and is adapted to rotate in loop  
13     ~~form by being supported in a tension-adjusted state by a~~  
14     plurality of rollers, and onto which a toner ~~image~~  
15     developed on the photoconductor is transferred; and  
16          an electric supply ~~means~~unit which is electrically and  
17     mechanically connected to the image forming unit through  
18     terminals to supply predetermined electric power to the  
19     photoconductor, the ~~charging~~ meanscharger, and the  
20     developing ~~means~~roller of the image forming unit,  
21          wherein the image forming unit is moved in a widthwise